

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1053. A bill to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, this week is National Police Week, the one week each year when tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the U.S. and some from foreign lands descend upon Washington, DC to pay homage to the fallen officers who gave their lives in the service of our communities.

All around Washington we see police cars and motorcycles from jurisdictions far and wide. Honor guards and drill teams. And many uniformed law enforcement officers with their families and kids.

At a hotel in Alexandria, VA, thousands of surviving families and coworkers of fallen law enforcement officers are gathered for the 2009 National Police Survivors Conference, sponsored by Concerns of Police Survivors. Today marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of Concerns of Police Survivors. I thank all of our colleagues for supporting S. Res. 138 commending that organization on the occasion of this significant anniversary. Tomorrow we observe Peace Officers Memorial Day with services at the U.S. Capitol.

Last evening the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund conducted its annual candlelight vigil at the memorial on Judiciary Square. I had the privilege of reading the name of a fallen officer, John Patrick Watson of the Kenai Police Department, at the 2004 candlelight vigil. I can attest that this annual event does justice to the memory of the 18,662 names inscribed on the memorial walls.

For fifty-one weeks out of every year those memorial walls display names. Just names. There is a story of heroism behind each of these names. Yet for 51 weeks out of each year, those stories are hidden from public view. Visitors to the memorial can discover but a few of these stories by viewing the displays at the Memorial Fund's tiny visitor's center.

During National Police Week the memorial comes alive with news clippings, photographs and patches—even the door of a police car—placed at the memorial by law enforcement agencies and friends and family members of the fallen officers. These ad hoc memorials are removed at the end of Police Week. Those that are left behind become part of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's permanent collection. Someday more substantial parts of that collection will be displayed to the public at the National Law Enforcement Museum.

In 2000, Congress passed the National Law Enforcement Museum Act, Public Law 106-492, which set aside land across from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial for a National Law Enforcement Museum. The museum is to be operated by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

This National Law Enforcement Museum will tell the story of our law enforcement heroes. It will help ensure that visitors to the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial have an opportunity to reflect on the ways that our fallen officers lived their lives, rather than the way those officers died.

Our colleagues may be interested to know that it was Vivian Eney-Cross, the surviving spouse of a fallen U.S. Capitol Police officer, who coined the phrase, "It is not how these officers died that made them heroes, it is how they lived."

The National Law Enforcement Museum Act requires that the museum be financed with private contributions. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund has been diligent in seeking private financing and hopes to break ground on the museum in November 2010 with a 2013 opening date.

I am hopeful that construction of the new museum will begin in 2010 but I am also realistic about the difficulties of raising private funds for worthy projects given current world economic conditions.

Fortunately, these economic conditions have neither deterred the Memorial Fund from asking for donations nor have they deterred prospective contributors with the ability to give, from giving. On May 4, the Memorial Fund announced a \$1.5 million grant from the Verizon Foundation to develop educational and interactive technology programs at the planned museum.

However, I must call the attention of our colleagues to a critical deadline in the National Law Enforcement Museum Act. The act provides that the authority to construct a museum terminates on November 9, 2010 if construction has not begun by that date. Today, I offer legislation that will push the termination date out to November 9, 2013. This legislation will provide a cushion for the Memorial Fund to continue their fundraising efforts.

Our law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities. Giving the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund a bit more time to arrange financing, if they need it, is a small price to pay. A small price to pay for the sacrifices our law enforcement officers and their families make every day.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1053

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM ACT.

Section 4(f) of the National Law Enforcement Museum Act (Public Law 106-492) is amended by striking "10 years" and inserting "13 years".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 149—EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE WRITERS, JOURNALISTS, AND LIBRARIANS OF CUBA ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY AND CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF CITIZENS OF CUBA IMPRISONED FOR EXERCISING RIGHTS ASSOCIATED WITH FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 149

Whereas Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides, "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.;"

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly declared May 3 of each year to be "World Press Freedom Day" to raise awareness of the importance of freedom of expression and to remind governments of their obligation to respect the rights of free expression and of a free press;

Whereas the United States Department of State, in its 2008 report on human rights in Cuba, notes, "The government [of Cuba] subjected independent journalists to travel bans, detentions, harassment of family and friends, equipment seizures, imprisonment, and threats of imprisonment. State Security agents posed as independent journalists to gather information on activists and spread misinformation and mistrust within independent journalist circles.;"

Whereas Reporters Without Borders, an international nongovernmental organization, continues to rank Cuba as one of the most repressive countries in the world, and the most repressive country in the Western Hemisphere, with respect to freedom of the press;

Whereas the International Press Institute, a global network of journalists, editors, and media executives, concludes that Cuba "remains a leading jailer of journalists";

Whereas International PEN, an international network of writers, has reported that 22 writers, journalists, and librarians were among the individuals arrested and tried during the crackdown by the Government of Cuba on independent civil society activists in the spring of 2003, and subsequently imprisoned;

Whereas International PEN further reports that "the majority of the detained writers, journalists and librarians are suffering from health complaints caused or exacerbated by the harsh conditions and treatment they are exposed to in prison. Despite their deteriorating health status, access to adequate medical treatment is often limited.;" and

Whereas the Committee to Protect Journalists, a nonpartisan international organization of journalists, has identified more than 20 writers, journalists, and librarians in Cuba who remain imprisoned by the Government of Cuba: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses solidarity with—

(A) the citizens of Cuba who are suffering harassment, deprivation, or imprisonment for exercising rights associated with freedom

of the press and pursuing livelihoods as independent writers, journalists, or librarians; and

(B) the family members of those writers, journalists, and librarians; and

(2) calls on the Government of Cuba to release immediately all writers, journalists, and librarians who are imprisoned for exercising their fundamental human rights, including the citizens of Cuba that have been specifically identified by international organizations that monitor respect for the freedom of the press as being imprisoned by the Government of Cuba.

SENATE RESOLUTION 150—COMMEMORATING AND CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF OFFICER KRISTINE MARIE FAIRBANKS, DEPUTY ANNE MARIE JACKSON, AND SERGEANT NELSON KAI NG WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON STATE IN 2008

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 150

Whereas law enforcement officers throughout Washington State conduct themselves in a manner that supports, maintains, and defends the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Washington;

Whereas law enforcement officers in Washington State and throughout the Nation risk their own lives to protect the lives of others;

Whereas since 1792, approximately 18,600 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in the United States, and 262 of those officers served the people of Washington State;

Whereas in 2008, 133 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in the United States;

Whereas in 2008, Deputy Anne Marie Jackson of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office, Officer Kristine Marie Fairbanks of the U.S. Forest Service, and Sergeant Nelson Kai Ng of the Ellensburg Police Department gave their lives in the service of the people of Washington State;

Whereas the family members and friends of Officer Fairbanks, Deputy Jackson, and Sergeant Ng bear the most immediate and profound burden of the absence of their loved ones; and

Whereas National Police Week is observed from May 10 to May 16, 2009, and is the most appropriate time to honor the Washington State law enforcement officers who sacrificed their lives in service to their State and Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends its condolences to the families and loved ones of Officer Kristine Marie Fairbanks, Deputy Anne Marie Jackson, and Sergeant Nelson Kai Ng; and

(2) stands in solidarity with the people of Washington State as they celebrate the lives and mourn the loss of these remarkable and selfless heroes who represented the best of their community and whose memory will serve as an inspiration for future generations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 151—DESIGNATES A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ON OCTOBER 30, 2009, FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS IN THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE

Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. REID, Mr. CORKER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 151

Whereas hundreds of thousands of men and women have served this Nation in building its nuclear defense since World War II;

Whereas these dedicated American workers paid a high price for their service and have developed disabling or fatal illnesses as a result of exposure to beryllium, ionizing radiation, toxic substances, and other hazards that are unique to the production and testing of nuclear weapons;

Whereas these workers were put at individual risk without their knowledge and consent in order to develop a nuclear weapons program for the benefit of all American citizens; and

Whereas these patriotic men and women deserve to be recognized for their contribution, service, and sacrifice towards the defense of our great Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 30, 2009, as a national day of remembrance for American nuclear weapons program workers and uranium miners, millers, and haulers; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to support and participate in appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities to commemorate October 30, 2009, as a national day of remembrance for past and present workers in America's nuclear weapons program.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I am joining with Senator BUNNING and other senators to introduce a resolution to declare a National Day of Remembrance in honor of the thousands of men and women that supported our nuclear efforts during the Cold War.

The dedicated employees of the Department of Energy and its contractors were instrumental in our winning the Cold War. These employees worked in laboratories and factories related to nuclear weapons, under hazardous conditions that were sometimes not well understood. They put their health and their lives in jeopardy in the service of their country, often without knowing it.

Tennessee has more workers that were made sick through their exposure to nuclear weapon hazards than any other state in the union. That is why one of my priorities in the U.S. Senate has been to help get our Cold War heroes and their families the compensation they deserve—from a major overhaul of the sick worker's program in 2004, to legislation that introduced last year to ensure that compensation for the families of sick nuclear worker won't be taken away in cases where sick workers or their eligible survivors die before their claims are processed.

While the compensation program can provide some financial assistance, it can never fully make up for what was lost.

I would also like to take a moment to mention one particular heroine among these Cold War heroes: Janine Lynn Anderson, a dedicated advocate for all the American nuclear weapons workers. Janine worked tirelessly for over a decade to ensure that nuclear weapons workers were not forgotten after the Cold War was won. Sadly, Janine passed away just a week ago on May 2. She will be missed.

It was her idea that these patriotic men and women be recognized through a National Day of Remembrance, for their contribution, service, and sacrifice towards the defense of this great nation.

That is why it is particularly appropriate that today we introduce this resolution to designate October 30, 2009 as a National Day of Remembrance in honor of these Cold War heroes. I look forward to working with my colleagues from both parties to pass this resolution soon.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1111. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1112. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1113. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1114. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1115. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1116. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1117. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mrs. McCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1118. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1058 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 627, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1119. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mrs. McCASKILL, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an